

The TIP Office is an extraordinary advocacy mechanism and has had a huge impact worldwide. In addition to 'best practices' advocacy, the office monitors labor and sex trafficking in every country of the world pursuant to minimum standards prescribed in the TVPA and makes recommendations for whether or not countries should be ranked Tier I, Tier II Watch List or Tier III. Countries with bad records and who fail to make 'serious and sustained' efforts to improve are designated Tier 3—the worst ranking—which may result in sanctions.

For over a decade the TIP Office has been the flagship in our struggle to combat the violence of human trafficking, and demoting our anti-trafficking efforts, as PL 113-4 did, was wrong and must be addressed. On behalf of the women and children who fall victim to the soulless traffickers every year, we need to ensure these efforts remain a top priority.

Accordingly, I authored, and the House passed the Human Trafficking Prioritization Act (H.R. 2283) to raise the profile and influence of the TIP Office by making it a bureau within the State Department. My bill is pending in the Senate.

Mr. Speaker, the House has also passed my first of its kind anti-sex tourism bill this year, my International Megan's Law to Prevent Demand for Sex Trafficking (H.R. 4573)—as part of a phenomenal package of legislation that builds on our efforts to end the exploitation of and violence against women and children.

H.R. 4573 will combat child sex tourism by alerting countries of destination concerning the travel plans of convicted U.S. pedophiles. And to protect American children, the bill encourages the President to use bilateral agreements and assistance to establish reciprocal notification so that we will know when convicted child-sex offenders are planning to come to the U.S.

The legislation is named for Megan Kanka, a 7-year-old from Hamilton, NJ, who was kidnapped, raped, and brutally murdered in 1994. Megan's assailant was a convicted, repeat sex offender living across the street, unbeknownst to residents in the neighborhood. Due to public outcry in response to the tragedy and to the hard work by Megan's loving parents, Richard and Maureen Kanka, the New Jersey State Legislature passed the original Megan's Law to require public notification of convicted sex offenders living in the community. Today, all 50 States and all the territories have a "Megan's Law", an important tool in preventing more children from becoming victims.

My International Megan's Law takes the lessons we have learned on how to protect our children from known child sex predators within our borders and expands those protections globally.

The Senate, thus far, has yet to act on these important bills—as well as the many other anti-trafficking measures we've passed.

The Majority Leader has an opportunity right now to send a strong message. On the anniversary of VAWA and as we approach Domestic Violence Awareness month, I call on Majority Leader REID to bring these bills to the floor.

As the nation is focused on the NFL's response to the horrific abuse perpetrated by a few of its players, HARRY REID can set an example of how organizations can act, deliberately and aggressively, to end the culture of violence that harms women and children.

COMMEMORATING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BERRYDALE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT IN JAY, FLORIDA

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commemorate the 40th Anniversary of the Berrydale Volunteer Fire Department in Jay, Florida, and recognize the dedication and selfless service of its members in protecting the citizens of the Northwest Florida community.

The Berrydale Volunteer Fire Department has been protecting the citizens of Northwest Florida since it was officially chartered in October 1974. The fire department started as a small operation, acquiring their first fire truck for \$300, with Holley Phillips appointed as their first Fire Chief. Since its charter, the department has served as an unrivaled knowledge base of fire safety and a safeguard for the residents of Jay.

In the 40 years that the Berrydale Volunteer Fire Department has been serving the community, it has grown considerably. Today, 12 honorable and distinguished volunteers selflessly serve their community as volunteer firefighters. This courageous group put their lives on the line daily to ensure the safety of their fellow Northwest Floridians by responding to thousands of calls within the community, over the years.

With community support, the Berrydale Volunteer Fire Department has added to their fleet three new trucks. A tanker, a pumper, and a rescue truck have been integrated into their arsenal to combat fires in Jay and keep its citizens out of harm's way. Current Fire Chief, Jim Cagle, has been leading the department for the past 24 years. What has remained true over the 40 years is the commitment to protect Northwest Florida and ensure its residents know they are safe under the watchful eye of the Berrydale Volunteer Fire Department.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, it gives me great pleasure to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the Berrydale Volunteer Fire Department. My wife Vicki joins me in thanking all of the volunteers for their faithful service and wishing them and the department continued success.

HONORING BURNS & McDONNELL

HON. PETER J. ROSKAM

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. ROSKAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Burns & McDonnell, an employee-owned consulting firm with locations in Downers Grove and Chicago. Burns & McDonnell, which serves my constituents in the Sixth District, has been recognized as being not only one of the best places to work in the state of Illinois, but also in the nation.

Since opening in 1994, the professionals at Burns & McDonnell have offered a full range of engineering, architecture, construction, environmental and consulting services. Their clients include government, industry, utility and

institutional organizations. Burns & McDonnell have been involved with many major projects around the Chicagoland area such as the Illinois Tollway, O'Hare International Airport, and countless others.

With over 160 employees in their local offices, Burns & McDonnell ranked 14th in Fortune 100's "Best Companies to Work For" in 2014 and was named to the 2014's "Best Places to Work in Illinois" list by the Daily Herald Business Ledger, one of only sixty Illinois companies to receive this honor.

Mr. Speaker and my distinguished colleagues in the House, please join me in honoring Burns & McDonnell for their legacy of excellence. Burns & McDonnell is a company that truly cares not only for their clients, but also for their employees.

RECOGNIZING THE HONORABLE KENNETH WILLIAM "KEN" HECHLER FOR HIS 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, this Saturday, September 20th, a former Member of the House from my State of West Virginia, Dr. Ken Hechler, will celebrate his 100th birthday.

First elected to the House in 1958 and re-elected to eight consecutive terms, Ken Hechler is now the longest living former Member of Congress, and remains a champion for black lung benefits for which he successfully fought during his tenure. Subsequent to his service in this body, he would continue his dedicated public service to the people of West Virginia by being elected Secretary of State for four terms.

Before serving in the House, Dr. Hechler served as a military historian, writing about major European battles, and he retired from the U.S. Army as a Major.

Dr. Hechler then worked as a speech writer in the Truman Administration. Entrusted with a Ph.D. from Columbia University, he devoted a considerable amount of his career to teaching; that included teaching in the Political Science Department at Marshall University in Huntington, West Virginia.

Dr. Hechler has authored nine books, including *The Bridge at Remagen*, *West Virginia Memories of President Kennedy*, and *Working with Truman: A Personal Memoir of the White House Years*.

In an era when this Nation seems so divided on the issues of the day, Dr. Hechler's perspective on the job of a Member of Congress is pertinent for political observers, pundits, students of government, our fellow citizens, and, particularly, Members of Congress.

In speaking about taking unpopular positions, yet being elected time and again, Dr. Hechler has said, "Well, if you do your job on other things; to most people that's more important. If you answer your mail directly and they believe you're honest in your beliefs, why, this is usually accepted even if they disagree with you."

Ken Hechler and I have been occasionally at odds, but upon one thing we have consistently agreed: Tending to the needs and interests of those we have the high honor of representing in the Congress—one call, one letter at a time—is our highest obligation.